Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented)   A postage indicium fraud detection method for permitting the automated processing of void mail pieces bearing a unique indicium, comprising:

printing a first unique indicium on a mail piece or a label to be applied to a mail piece, the first unique indicium comprising at least one of a unique facing identification marking (FIM) different from FIM A, FIM B, and FIM C, and a unique postal numeric encoding technique (POSTNET) barcode that does not correspond to an actual zip code, which first unique indicium identifies the mail piece as being a void mail piece and is sorted from mail pieces not bearing the unique indicium by automated mail handling equipment.

2 - 3 Canceled

4. (Original)   The postage indicium fraud detection method of claim 1, wherein an additional indicium comprising a unique postal alpha numeric encoding technology barcode is printed onto the mail piece or label for the mail piece, which unique postal alpha numeric encoding technology barcode is used to at least one of identify the sender of the void mail piece, the time of the void mail handling, and collect statistics on attempts to mail void mail pieces by the sender

5. (Previously presented)   A postage indicium fraud detection method for permitting the automated processing of void mail pieces bearing a first unique indicium using existing automated mail handling equipment, comprising:

printing a first unique indicium on a mail piece or a label to be applied to a mail piece, the first unique indicium comprising at least one of a unique facing identification marking (FIM) different from FIM A, FIM B, and FIM C, and a unique postal numeric encoding technique

(POSTNET) barcode that does not correspond to an actual zip code, which first unique indicium identifies the mail piece as being a void mail piece and is sorted from mail pieces not bearing the unique indicium by automated mail handling equipment; and

processing the void mail piece bearing the first unique indicium with the automated mail handling equipment to identify and segregate the void mail piece from other non-void mail pieces.

6 - 7 Canceled

8. (Original)   The postage indicium fraud detection method of claim 5, further comprising printing a second unique indicia, comprising a postal alpha numeric encoding technology barcode which is used by automated mail handling equipment to identify the sender of the void mail piece, the time of the void mail handling, and collect statistics on attempts to mail void mail pieces by the sender.

9. (Currently amended)   A postage indicium fraud detection method for permitting the automated processing and segregation of void mail pieces bearing a first unique indicium from non-void mail pieces not bearing the first unique indicium, comprising:

providing authorizing client software which permits for a user to print information based indicia postage onto a mail piece or label for a mail piece;

having the user enter entering a valid delivery address, select selecting a type of mail piece, mail class, attributes, and special services by a user;

having the user verify and accept verifying and accepting the address and any modifications thereto;

having the user select selecting between printing a sample void information based indicia postage and a non-void information based postage indicia;

having a user print printing a sample information based postage indicia for void mail pieces and printing non-void information based postage indicia for non-void mail pieces,

wherein the void mail piece or a label therefore is printed with a first unique indicium comprising at least one of a unique facing identification marking (FIM) different from FIM A, FIM B, and FIM C, and a unique postal numeric encoding technique (POSTNET) barcode that does not correspond to an actual zip code, which first unique indicium identifies the mail piece as a void mail piece; and

　　　　　providing automated mail handling equipment which is adapted to segregate void information based postage indicia bearing mail pieces from non-void information based postage indicia bearing mail pieces.

10. (Original) The postage indicium fraud detection method of claim 9, further comprising printing a unique postal alpha numeric encoding technology barcode onto the mail piece or label therefor which is used by automated mail handling equipment to at least one of identify the sender of the void mail piece, the time of the void mail handling, and collect statistics on attempts to mail void mail pieces by the sender.

11. (Currently amended)　　A postage indicium fraud detection method for permitting the automated processing, identification, and segregation of void mail pieces bearing a first unique indicium, comprising:

　　　　　~~providing automated mail handling equipment which is adapted to sort~~ sorting mail based on indicia placed on mail pieces using automated mail handling equipment; and

　　　　　~~providing client software for~~ printing a first unique indicium on a mail piece or a label to be applied to a mail piece, the first unique indicium comprising at least one of a unique facing identification marking (FIM) different from FIM A, FIM B, and FIM C, and a unique postal numeric encoding technique (POSTNET) barcode that does not correspond to an actual zip code, using provided software, which first unique indicium identifies the mail piece as being a void mail piece and is sorted from mail pieces not bearing the unique indicium by the automated mail handling equipment.

12. (Original) The postage indicium fraud detection method of claim 11, wherein the client software is adapted to generate a unique postal alpha numeric encoding technology barcode, which when printed on a mail piece or label therefor is used by automated mail handling equipment to at least one of identify the sender of the void mail piece, the time of the void mail handling, and collect statistics on attempts to mail void mail pieces by the sender.